

## Message Text

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67

ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 SP-02

PER-01 ABF-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 EB-07 /057 W

----- 099229

R 141600Z OC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 871

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7892

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR AFSP

SUBJ: RELOCATION FAA REGIONAL OFFICE IN BEIRUT

REF STATE 242686

1. WHILE AE WOULD LIKE TO SEE ATHENS RECEIVE THE BENEFITS ACCRUING FROM RELOCATION OF BEIRUT PERSONNEL WITH REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES, AND BELIEVE THAT GOG IS ITSELF AWARE OF POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES IN DEVELOPING ATHENS AS A CENTER FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE COMMERCIAL SPHERE, WE HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY OF MOVING THE FAA REGIONAL OFFICER AND HIS STAFF HERE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

2. AS DEPARTMENT KNOWS, AIR SPACE PROBLEMS ARE A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE ASPECT OF GREEK-TURKISH DIFFERENCES IN THE AEGEAN. IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF RUMOR AND SUSPICION THAT STILL SURROUNDS U.S. ACTIVITIES IN GREECE, WE CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT FAA RELOCATION WOULD LEAD TO INFLAMATORY AND MISLEADING STORIES IN THE GREEK PRESS AS WELL AS QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT SEEKING TO LINK THE FAA MOVE WITH THE AEGEAN AIR SPACE ISSUE. THIS POSSIBILITY WOULD CERTAINLY BE IN THE MIND OF THE GOG WERE WE TO RAISE THE QUESTION AND MIGHT LEAD THEM TO TURN DOWN OUR REQUEST. IN VIEW OF GOG'S EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE IN AGREEING TO

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LET ATHENS SERVE AS SAFEHAVEN IN EVENT OF GENERAL  
EVACUATION OF AMERICANS FROM BEIRUT, WE WOULD PREFER  
NOT REPEAT NOT TO PRESS THEM ON FAA AT THIS TIME.

3. IF, DESPITE THESE CONSIDERATIONS, DEPARTMENT WISHES  
US TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH GREEK GOVERNMENT, WE WOULD  
PROPOSE TO DO SO INFORMALLY AT MFA. WE BELIEVE HOWEVER  
THAT IF OTHER POSSIBLE SITES FOR FAA RELOCATION EXIST,  
THESE ALTERNATIVES SHOULD BE EXPLORED BEFORE WE APPROACH  
THE GREEKS. STEARNS

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 242686  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971015  
**Subject:** RELOCATION FAA REGIONAL OFFICE IN BEIRUT  
**TAGS:** AEMR, AFSP  
**To:** STATE INFO BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006